



# *Furnace Brook Middle School*

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## **School Council Agenda Wednesday, November 8, 2017 2:45 – 3:45 PM / FBMS Conference Room**

1. Review and accept minutes from October 18, 2017 meeting
2. School Update Report: Maureen Kemmett
3. Handout copies of 2017 - 2018 FBMS School Improvement Plan  
-School Committee will vote on it on November 14, 2017
4. Confirm dates for School Council meetings:  
-January 17, 2018  
-February 14, 2018  
-March 21, 2018  
-April 11, 2018  
-May 16, 2018
5. Handbook: dress code (pages 38-39 in FBMS Handbook)

### **Dress Code/Personal Appearance Guidelines**

*The Marshfield School District encourages students to dress for school in an appropriate manner, which reflects self-confidence, and respect for the learning environment. Appropriate dress is the responsibility of the student and his/her parents or guardians. However, in the interests of maintaining the required school climate essential to meaningful teaching and learning, the administration may ban dress that is a disruption of the educational process or is inappropriate due to health and/or safety.*

*Listed below are guidelines, which are intended to define appropriate attire:*

- *Dress must not be a safety hazard, disruptive to the school environment or destructive to school property.*
- *Students may not wear any belts, jewelry, or clothing items that contain protruding appointments that can cause injury to self or others or damage school property. Teachers, at their discretion, may ask students to remove any jewelry that is considered unsafe in any class or any class activity.*
- *Pants and shirt together should cover a student's abdomen/torso area.*
- *Skirts and shorts must be of appropriate length for natural within the building including sitting at a desk, walking up stairs, and bending over at a locker, etc., all while maintaining proper coverage. One guideline for appropriate length of shorts and skirts is the finger-tip rule. Final discretion belongs to administration.*
- *The following clothing items should not be worn: see through; bare-back; halter; low-cut; spaghetti straps; as well as tube tops and tank tops. All shirts must have wide straps. Please remember that "layering pieces," such as tank tops, are meant to be worn under additional clothing.*
- *Obscene, or profane language, or pictures on clothing and/or jewelry, as well as, clothing that depicts images of violence, weapons, alcohol and illegal or inappropriate substances for juveniles are not to be worn.*

- *Hats, bandanas, hoods, and sunglasses are not considered appropriate attire for safety reasons.*
- *Pajama pants and slippers are not considered appropriate attire.*
- *Coats and jackets designed for outside wear are not to be worn in school.*
- *Handbags are limited to “purse size” and are not intended for the carrying of books.*

*In the event that a student's choice of dress is deemed to be out of compliance by any member of the staff, discreet and respectful efforts will be made to remedy the situation. Remediation may include contacting the parents/guardians and providing appropriate clothing.*

*Special dress may be allowed on special occasions, but this dress is left to the discretion of the school administration.*

## 6. Discussion: homework

***Homework Purpose:*** *FBMS homework assignments may*

- *introduce new content;*
- *allow for students to practice a skill or process that students can complete independently but that still presents a challenge;*
- *provide opportunities for students to elaborate on information that has been addressed in class;*
- *deepen student knowledge;*
- *or may allow students to explore topics of their own interest.*

***Practice:*** *FBMS homework assignments are purposeful and when possible, authentic (real world). Homework incorporates student self-reflection when possible. Homework for students with special needs is commensurate with their strengths and needs as defined within the goals of their individual educational program.*

***Amount:*** *Our vision is that nightly homework should not exceed an average of 60 minutes for sixth grade students, 70 minutes for seventh grade students, and 80 minutes for eighth grade students. These standards are endorsed by the National Education Association and by the National Parent-Teacher Association (Cooper, 2006). 27*

- *We recognize that students, at times, complete assignments at differing rates; however, if your child is consistently exceeding these guidelines, please consult with your child’s teacher(s) and/or guidance counselor about your child’s homework routines.*
- *There may be some additional reading assigned. We encourage independent reading as a regular practice.*

***Communication:*** *Collaboration between staff, students and parents/guardians is paramount to ensure student success.*

- *Teachers communicate homework assignments through Aspen, Canvas, or through the student agenda, which every student receives at the start of the school year.*
- *Individual teachers share their homework communication practice with parents/guardians at the beginning of the year.*
- *Teachers consider student computer access when communicating and assigning homework.*
- *Teachers collaborate to discuss the amount of student homework being assigned.*

**Make-Up Work**

*It is the student's responsibility to make up class work and homework after an absence or missed class. Unless a teacher extends a deadline, the student is allowed two days for each day absent to complete work.*

7. Set the Agenda for the January Meeting

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